

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 161976  
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /016 R

66011  
DRAFTED BY S/S-O:JBARLOW  
APPROVED BY S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH  
-----047636 270644Z /14  
R 261812Z JUN 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 161976

FOLLOWING REPEAT LUBUMBASHI 0753 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO KINSHASA,  
BRUSSELS, PARIS AND RABAT JUN 23.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L LUBUMBASHI 0753

E.O. 11652 GDS  
TAGS: MARR, CG, BE, MO  
SUBJECT: DEPARTURE OF BELGIAN TROOPS FROM SHABA

1. SUMMARY. ALTHOUGH BELGIANS STATED SYMBOLIC DEPARTURE FROM  
SHABA ON JUNE 22,, BELGIAN TROOPS REMAIN IN MINING TOWNS NEAR  
LIKASI. BELGIANS HAVE ALSO DECIDED TO ROTATE  
NEW 300-MAN PARATROOP UNIT TO KAMINA FROM BELGIAN  
TO REPLACE THOSE SOLDIERS WHO WILL BE DEPARTING IN NEXT FEW  
DAYS. END SUMMARY.

2. BELGIANS STATED SYMBOLIC DEPARTURE FROM POSITIONS DEFENDING  
SOUTH SHABAN TOWNS ON JUNE 22. CEREMONY WAS HELD AT AIRPORT  
FOR CONTINGENT DEPARTING FROM KAMINA. PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED  
MILITARY GOVERNOR SINGA, MOROCCAN COLONEL LOUBARIS AND  
BELGIAN MILITARY AND CIVILIAN OFFICIALS. UNIT  
WHICH DEPARTED HAD BEEN PROVIDING DEFENSE  
AT MINING TOWN OF KIPUSHI NEAR ZAMBIAN BORDER.  
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PAGE 02 STATE 161976

3. MOROCCANS HAD ORIGINALLY BEEN RELUCTANT  
TO PUT FORCE IN KIPUSHI ARGUING THAT PROXIMITY  
TO BORDER MADE PAN AFRICAN TROOPS TOO VULNERABLE. LOCAL  
EXPATRIATE POPULATION WAS EXTREMELY NERVOUS  
OVER PROSPECT OF NO FOREIGN DEFENSE FORCE.  
GECAMINES PERSONNEL SEEM TO HAVE WEIGHED IN

TO CONVINCE MOROCCANS TO COMPROMISE.  
MOROCCANS AGREED TO ESTABLISH POST  
2-3 KILOMETERS OUTSIDE OF KIPUSHI ON ROAD TO  
LUBUMBASHI, THIS SEEMS TO HAVE PROVIDED CALMING  
EFFECT AT LEAST TEMPORARILY.'\$

4. ALTHOUGH BELGIAN PARATROOPERS HAVE NOW  
SHOWN SYMBOLIC DEPARTURE, SMALL BELGIAN UNITS  
REMAIN AT LIKASI AND NEARBY MINING TOWNS OF KAKANDA AND  
KAMBOVE. BELGIAN CONSULATE OFFICIALS EXPECT THESE FORCES  
TO DEPART WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS AFTER THEY FEEL PAN AFRICAN  
FORCE IS INSTALLED. DESPITE DEPARTURE FROM SOUTH SHABAN TOWNS,  
BELGIAN CONSULATE OFFICIAL SAID THAT BELGIAN PARATROOPERS WILL  
REMAIN IN KAMINA FOR NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS. UNIT PRESENTLY AT  
KAMINA WILL BE ROTATED BACK TO BELGIAN IN THE  
NEXT WEEK AND REPLACED BY ANOTHER 300 MAN UNIT. OSTENSIBLE  
PURPOSE OF CONTINUED BELGIAN PRESENCE IS TO COORDINATE  
RELIEF SUPPLIES FROM BELGIAN AND EEC. BELGIANS SAY UNIT WILL ALSO BE  
IN A POSITION TO PROVIDE LOGISTAL SUPPORT TO PAN AFRICAN  
FORCE IF RESUPPLY MISSIONS BEGIN. UNDERLYING AND  
UNSTATED BUT PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANT ROLE IS TO SERVE AS QUICK  
ACTION STRIKE FORCE IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES. BELGIANS  
RECOGNIZE THAT SUCH ASSURANCES PROVIDED BY SMALL NUMBER OF  
PARATROOPERS WILL BE MORE PSYCHOLOGICAL THAN REAL. TO  
DEMONSTRATE CAPABILITY, HOWEVER, BELGIAN FORCES FROM KAMINA  
EN ROUTE TO PARTICPATE IN DEPARTURE  
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PAGE 03 STATE 161976

CEREMONY ON JUNE 22, LANDED C-130 AT LUBUDI  
FUNGARUME AND LIKASI WHERE BELGIANS  
COLONELS DISEMBARKED IN FLAG SHOWING EXERCISE.  
BELGIAN SOURCE NOTED THAT PARATROOPERS WHO WOULD BE  
ARRIVING WERE PART OF CONTINGENT THAT DROPPED ON  
KOLWEZI IN MAY AND TOTATED BACK TO BELGIAN SEVERAL WEEKS AGO.  
BORG UNQUOTE VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TROOP DEPLOYMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE161976  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** O:JBARLOW  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**SAS ID:** 2204710  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DEPARTURE OF BELGIAN TROOPS FROM SHABA  
**TAGS:** MARR, MOPS, CG, BE, MO  
**To:** USCINCEUR  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014